

# CITY SOURCE



Your source for City news and information



## Cleanup Columbia 2015

Cleanup Columbia 2015 will be held Saturday, April 11, and all residents are invited to participate! Cleanup Columbia is a citywide trash pickup event where hundreds of local residents work together to make the city a more beautiful place.

The City will provide volunteers with trash bags, gloves, safety vests (where needed) and help them find a trash pickup location. Volunteers pick up trash in the morning and are asked to start no later than 10 a.m. Columbia Public Works will pick up filled bags.

The event is suited for individuals and groups of all sizes and people of all ages and abilities. There will be a thank-you picnic, sponsored by APAC-Missouri, at Twin Lakes Recreation Area to celebrate afterwards. T-shirts will be provided to volunteers, while supplies last.

2015 Cleanup Columbia sponsors are: APAC - Missouri Inc., KOMU TV-8, the Mid-Missouri CW, 102.3 BXR, KFRU AM 1400, Sonshine Graphics, Columbia Daily Tribune, CenturyLink and Landmark Bank.

To register or learn more, contact Volunteer Programs at 874-7499, [volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com) or [GoColumbiaMo.com/Volunteer](http://GoColumbiaMo.com/Volunteer).

*Photos courtesy of Willie Jones, volunteer*

## Renewable energy target exceeded

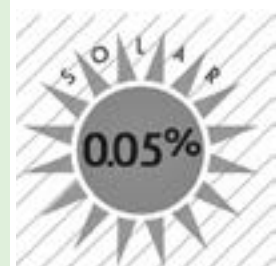
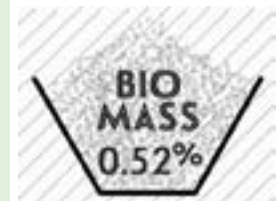
Columbia voters passed an ordinance in 2004 mandating that Columbia Water & Light provide electricity from increasing amounts of renewable energy. Last year, Columbia's renewable electric supply came from landfill gas, wind, biomass and solar. The amount supplied in 2014 was 7.22 percent, which is higher than the mandate of 5 percent.

*Some of the 2014 highlights:*

- An outside firm specializing in electric rates was hired to evaluate the methodology used to determine the costs associated with renewable energy. It was suggested that a capacity credit be used to show when the power resource is available. This cost accounting methodology was approved by the Water & Light Board.
- A request for proposals for additional photovoltaic panels at the West Ash pump station was issued.
- There was a 40 percent increase in the rated capacity of customer-installed photovoltaic systems.
- Solar energy loans were made available to customers for photovoltaic systems and solar water heaters.

As outlined in the renewable energy ordinance, the cost cannot cause electric rates to increase more than 3 percent. For calendar year 2014, the additional cost for the renewable portfolio was \$1.12 million and the limit was \$3.29 million. The extra money spent on renewable energy was 34.25 percent of what was allowed according to the ordinance.

Read the full report: [GoColumbiaMo.com/WaterandLight/Electric/renewableenergyportfolio.php](http://GoColumbiaMo.com/WaterandLight/Electric/renewableenergyportfolio.php).



## Street Talk

In late 2014, a citizen survey was conducted by ETC Institute to gauge citizen satisfaction with the services provided by the City of Columbia.

The City would like to thank everyone who completed the survey. The Public Works Department is pleased that in the area of city streets, customer satisfaction has improved.

*Some of the highlights from the survey concerning streets include:*

- Satisfaction of the overall condition of City streets rose 12 percent.
- Satisfaction of maintenance efforts of major City streets rose 10 percent.
- Satisfaction of maintenance of residential streets rose 6 percent.
- Satisfaction of traffic-calming efforts rose 8 percent.

Columbia Public Works would like to thank its customers for their continuous support in the department's efforts to maintain and improve Columbia's roadways. The feedback is invaluable as it helps guide the department's mission.

The full report is available online at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Feedback/etc-survey.php](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Feedback/etc-survey.php).



## New dedicated pickleball courts at Albert-Oakland Park

Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in North America! Local pickleball enthusiasts requested dedicated pickleball courts to accommodate the growing number of players in Columbia. Four new courts were built at Albert-Oakland Park, south of the tennis courts, replacing the former sand volleyball courts. These courts will also be used for hosting the Show-Me State Games. This project was funded by the park sales tax. Looking for a place to play indoors? Indoor pickleball is available at the ARC. Check the ARC gymnasium schedule online at [GoColumbiaMo.com](http://GoColumbiaMo.com).

## West-central Columbia neighborhood plan underway

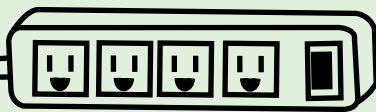
Residents, near neighbors and other stakeholders are hard at work on a neighborhood action plan for the west-central area of Columbia, roughly bounded by Broadway on the south, McBaine and Sexton on the east, Business Loop 70 on the north and Stadium on the west. The plan will identify neighborhood needs and priorities related to land use, transportation, infrastructure and community character.

There will be multiple opportunities to provide input and feedback during the planning process, which will be ongoing through March and April. Neighborhood planners are also asking residents to consider leadership and advocacy roles for neighborhood plan development, adoption and beyond.

To learn more about upcoming events, meetings, online surveys and to get involved, call 874-7682 or visit the City's website at [GoColumbiaMo.com](http://GoColumbiaMo.com) and search "neighborhood planning project."



### A Smart Choice



Replace your traditional power strip with an advanced power strip. Advanced power strips, also known as smart strips, recognize when a device is turned off, and shut off the power supply. Seventy-five percent of the electricity used to power a home's electronics is consumed while electronics are turned off, but still plugged in. That can cost you around \$200 annually.

[comoenergychallenge.com](http://comoenergychallenge.com)

**Brought to you by the CoMo Energy Challenge. Competing for \$5 million and change.**

## Free tree = energy savings

Trees planted in the right place on your property can reduce your cooling costs by up to 30 percent in the summer. Through Columbia Water & Light's Tree Power program, electric customers can get a free 6-foot to 10-foot-tall shade tree.

Sign up and a representative will come to your house to show you the best place for your shade tree. You will then receive a coupon for a free tree.



874-7325

[ColumbiaPowerPartners.com](http://ColumbiaPowerPartners.com)  
(limit one tree per electric meter)

**Renewable energy conference**

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual Advancing Renewables in the Midwest conference is being held at the University of Missouri April 6-7. Speakers from across the nation will address issues surrounding programs, policies and projects that are at the forefront of renewable energy.

The conference is hosted by Columbia Water & Light, the University of Missouri Atmospheric Sciences department and the Missouri Department of Economic Development – Division of Energy.

For more information about the conference, visit [AdvancingRenewables.org](http://AdvancingRenewables.org).

**Police ask residents to help prevent burglaries during spring break**

Don't be victim to a burglary this spring break! The Columbia Police Department (CPD) reminds residents to prepare for extended absences.

In the days leading up to your absence, do not announce it on social media or in voice mail or email. Arrange for pickup and/or stop delivery of mail, newspapers and packages. Ask a trusted friend, neighbor or family member to check on your residence while you are away. Give your residence the appearance that someone is home by leaving ample exterior and interior lights on, or use timers. Ensure all windows and doors are secure and disable automatic garage doors.

Additionally, CPD encourages residents to visit the City's website at [GoColumbiaMo.com/Police](http://GoColumbiaMo.com/Police) to take advantage of the property inventory spreadsheet. This spreadsheet allows residents to list all valuable items with their serial numbers and should be stored in a safe place for reference. Connect with CPD on Facebook and Twitter (@ColumbiaPD) for more safety and prevention tips.

<b>PARKS &amp; RECREATION CALENDAR</b>	
Call 874-7460 for more information.	
<b>April</b>	
<b>1</b>	Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt, Riechmann Pavilion, times vary by age, \$7, must pre-register
<b>4</b>	Egg Hunt EGGstravaganza, Douglass Park, 12-1:15 p.m., FREE
<b>11</b>	Kite Flying Day, Douglass Park Ballfield, 12-2 p.m., FREE
<b>19</b>	Earth Day, Peace Park, 12-7 p.m., FREE
<b>29</b>	Tons of Trucks, Target parking lot at Columbia Mall, 4-7 p.m., FREE

**Help UCS help you!**

Utility Customer Service (UCS) is seeking feedback on how to best meet customer needs. Help UCS provide better customer service by completing a survey online at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Finance/Utilities/survey.php](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com/Finance/Utilities/survey.php). Paper copies are also available at City Hall, 701 East Broadway. Call 874-7380 to request a copy by mail. Drop boxes for completed surveys will be available at the front desk of City Hall, cashier's office and both sides of UCS. The survey is open until March 15, 2015.



**Code Corner**

House numbers help visitors and delivery people find your home; they are also essential in helping fire or police personnel get there in an emergency. City code requires that premises have identification of contrasting numbers or letters a minimum of 4 inches in height and a minimum stroke width of 1/2 inch. Existing house numbers that are 2 inches in height are acceptable until they need to be replaced.

**HOUSE NUMBERS**

**Trails App**

The new Go CoMo Trails app is now available for iPhone and Android. Find your current location in relation to Columbia's destination trails. Zoom in on the map to see where restrooms, exercise stations, water fountains, parking lots and bike repair stations are located. Download your free app today from iTunes or Google Play.







Dean & Charlotte Larrick

## Volunteers of the Month

### Dean & Charlotte Larrick

Dean and Charlotte Larrick have made a life of giving back to others. For over 50 years, across multiple states, the Larricks have served on PTAs and Cub Scouts and in libraries. After retiring and moving back to Columbia, the couple continued volunteering by helping at Midway Heights Elementary, The Wardrobe, the

Boutique at Ellis Fischel Cancer Center (EFCC), Columbia Art League and serving on the Ellis Fischel Auxiliary Board.

"My favorite volunteer job is working in the Boutique at EFCC," Charlotte said. "It's beautiful. I meet wonderful patients and customers and feel I can be of help. I'm a 'people person' so I just like to meet and help new people."

About four years ago, the Larricks took on a new project: Adopt-A-Spot. During their daily walks, the pair began picking up trash along the road and were inspired to make it a more permanent commitment. The City identified their original plot as a problem area where citizens frequently littered. Although volunteers are only required to clean their area at least four times a year, the Larricks continue their continual cleanup while getting some exercise.

"I'll keep volunteering as long as I am able to be useful and do the job well," Charlotte said. "I think volunteering keeps me busy and active and you realize all the need out in the world and community."

To learn more about volunteering with the City, contact Volunteer Programs at 874-7499 or [volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com](mailto:volunteer@GoColumbiaMo.com).

Written by volunteer Abby Holman

## Budget Billing

Utility Customer Service (UCS) would like to remind customers that March is the enrollment month for the budget billing program. Through budget billing, customers pay the same amount each month. Sometimes the budgeted amount is higher than the actual bill, and sometimes it's lower. Once a year, during March, accounts are reviewed to see if customers have overpaid or underpaid, and adjustments are made accordingly.

To qualify, customers must have been at the address for a minimum of 12 months and be current in their payments. Find out more about budget billing at [GoColumbiaMo.com](http://GoColumbiaMo.com). Detailed information is also on the tear-off flap of the return envelope included with the March utility bill. Use the tear-off flap to enroll, or submit an application online.

## Mark your calendars to go dark for Earth Hour and the CoMo Energy Challenge

Earth Hour 2015 will be observed from 8:30-9:30 p.m. March 28. During this time, residents are encouraged to demonstrate the community's commitment to finding solutions to climate change by turning off all lights. **This year's Earth Hour comes at a critical time, as Columbia (the CoMo Energy Challenge) is competing for the \$5 million Georgetown University Energy Prize.** Visit the Office of Sustainability's page at [GoColumbiaMo.com](http://GoColumbiaMo.com) for updates on how the City and community will celebrate Earth Hour.

## Boards & Commissions

The City is accepting applications for the following:

*Application deadline: April 3 at 5 p.m.*

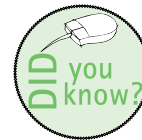
- Airport Advisory Board
- Board of Adjustment
- Downtown Columbia Leadership Council
- Planning and Zoning Commission

*Application deadline: May 8 at 5 p.m.*

- Board of Plumbing Examiners
- Columbia Housing Authority Board
- Environment and Energy Commission
- Parks and Recreation Commission

Applications and information about current vacancies are available online at [GoColumbiaMo.com](http://GoColumbiaMo.com) or at the City Clerk's Office. Call 874-7208 for information.

## Web Page Did You Know?



You can receive a weekly email from the Office of Cultural Affairs with information on upcoming arts events, exhibits, classes and cultural activities happening in Columbia. Visit [GoColumbiaMo.com/Arts](http://GoColumbiaMo.com/Arts) and click "Sign up for Art News" to subscribe.

The City does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, disability, familial status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

City of Columbia  
701 E. Broadway • Columbia, MO 65201  
(573) 874-7111 • [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com)

**MAYOR**  
Bob McDavid

### CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

<i>First Ward</i>	<b>Vacant</b>
<i>Second Ward</i>	<b>Michael Trapp</b>
<i>Third Ward</i>	<b>Karl Skala</b>
<i>Fourth Ward</i>	<b>Ian Thomas</b>
<i>Fifth Ward</i>	<b>Laura Nauser</b>
<i>Sixth Ward</i>	<b>Barbara Hoppe</b>
<i>City Manager</i>	<b>Mike Matthes</b>



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